

Message Text

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54

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /042 W

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P R 171457Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1301

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS MOSCOW 4057

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; CU/EE PLEASE INFORM IREX

USIA FOR IEU; IEU FOR HOFFMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR (GRIMSTED, PATRICIA)

SUBJECT: SENIOR SCHOLAR EXCHANGE -- ARCHIVAL ACCESS

REF: MOSCOW 1814

1. NOTED SPECIALIST ON SOVIET ARCHIVES PATRICIA GRIMSTED, CURRENTLY IN USSR ON SENIOR SCHOLAR EXCHANGE, HAS JUST RETURNED FROM VISIT TO MINSK WHERE SHE WAS CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON HOLDINGS IN BYELORUSSIAN ARCHIVES. GRIMSTED REPORTS THAT RECEPTION IN BYELORUSSIAN CAPITAL WAS WARMEST AND MOST COOPERATIVE SHE HAS EVER RECEIVED DURING VISITS TO USSR STRETCHING OVER SEVERAL YEARS.

2. GRIMSTED INDICATED SHE WAS MET AT TRAIN WITH FLOWRES, INVITED TO LUNCHEONS IN INSTITUTE DIRECTORS' OFFICES, AND USHERED INTO SEVERAL ARCHIVES WHICH IN PAST HAVE OFFICIALLY BEEN LISTED AS CLOSED.

3. BYELORUSSIAN ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION WAS FULLY PREPARED TO RESPOND TO HER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, ASSIGNED TWO STAFF MEMBERS TO WORK FULL TIME WITH HER, ARRANGED VISITS QUICKLY, PROVIDED EXTENSIVE PHOTOCOPYING FREE OF CHARGE. ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION
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HAS ALREADY INVITED HER BACK FOR FURTHER RESEARCH, DISCUSSIONS

OF HER WORK.

4. GRIMSTED TOLD EMBOFF THAT SHE NEVER RECEIVED SUCH TREATMENT BEFORE FROM ANY SOVIET INSTITUTION OR ORGAINZATION. SUPPORT OFFERED HER, PLUS THT PROVIDED SENIOR SCHOLAR CZAP RECENTLY BY MHE (SEE REF) POINTS, WE BELIEVE, TO DESIRE ON PART OF SOVIETS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR SCHOLARS IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE CONTINUATION OF SUCCESSFUL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.
STOESSEL

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